

# Pills, Potions, and Poisons

## Purpose

Fewer university students are successfully completing science degrees, ultimately affecting the work force talent available for research and technology institutions. Further, there is considerable evidence that students who develop science career aspirations early are more likely than their peers to succeed in earning a science degree.

The research of Dr. Nicole Kwiek has shown that pharmacology (i.e., the study of how drugs work) is an engaging and effective platform through which to teach high school chemistry and biology. Thus, the College of Pharmacy, the Center of Science and Industry, Ohio University, and more than 55 Ohio high schools have partnered in the “Pills, Potions, and Poisons” summer program.

## Impact

This week-long enrichment program uses drug topics as a context for high school students to collaboratively engage in hands-on science, increase competence in biology and chemistry, and build interest in biomedical science careers.

### Ohio State Colleges/Units Involved

College of Pharmacy

### Community Partners Involved

COSI

Ohio University

Ohio High Schools



## Contact

**Nicole Cartwright Kwiek, Ph.D.**  
Clinical Assistant Professor  
College of Pharmacy  
[kwiek.1@osu.edu](mailto:kwiek.1@osu.edu)  
<http://go.osu.edu/ppp>



THE OHIO STATE  
UNIVERSITY

